

**RECEIVED**

October 1, 2001

**OCT 16 2001**

The Honorable Spencer Abraham  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20085

Re: Yucca Mountain Project

Dear Secretary Abraham,

SCIENTECH, INC. is taking this opportunity to provide you comments on the Yucca Mountain Project in response to the Federal Register Notice (66 FR 43850). SCIENTECH is a worldwide, science and technology company, emphasizing services essential to the safe, secure, and cost-effective operation of public utilities, nuclear power plants, government installations, and industrial facilities.

The formulation of effective energy policy is urgently needed and essential to our nation's future. A sound energy policy should clearly address the issue of nuclear waste disposal, as nuclear power generates 20% of our electricity without emitting greenhouse gases and other harmful airborne pollutants. Failure to proceed with a solution to the nuclear waste disposal problem will eventually limit our nation's ability to use nuclear power as an essential part of our energy supply mix.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act, as amended, establishes the Federal responsibility for the final disposition of used nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste in the United States. We urge you to make used nuclear fuel disposal one of your highest priorities. It is essential that DOE keep on schedule to ensure timely movement of used fuel from nuclear facilities around the country. It is critical that DOE continue to request adequate funds from Congress to keep the program on track.

A decision on Yucca Mountain as a geological repository must be based on sound science. DOE has spent the better part of two decades and \$7 Billion studying Yucca Mountain. These studies, including the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE), have yielded the scientific information necessary for a decision to be made this year.

Based on our review of the PSSE and other information concerning Yucca Mountain, we believe the Secretary can determine that the scientific analysis indicates that the Yucca Mountain site is likely to meet the applicable radiation protection standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency and Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Secretary should proceed to recommend the site to the President at this time.

The Honorable Spencer Abraham

October 1, 2001

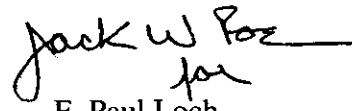
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In addition, we believe that since the scientific analysis indicates that the Yucca Mountain site is likely to meet the above radiation protection standards, the President can conclude that the Yucca Mountain site is qualified for the preparation and submission of a construction license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

We wish to thank you for this opportunity to provide you comments on the Yucca Mountain Project. If we can be of further assistance in this matter please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jack W. Fox". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

E. Paul Loch  
President